

Application No. 10/721,140

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 80 are pending in the application. The Examiner has subjected the claims to a restriction requirement, and claims 1 to 40, 47 to 50, 55, and 69 to 80 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 47 has been objected to for informalities. Claims 41, 42, 44, 47, 54, 56 to 59, and 66 to 68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Darsow et al. (U.S. Patent 3,960,815). Claims 43, 45, 46, 48 to 53, and 60 to 65 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Regarding the objection to claim 47 for informalities, the Examiner has stated that "d" in this claim should be "a". Applicants respectfully request clarification of this ground for objection. Claim 47 does not contain any lettering for ordering of elements that might require such amendment, and does not appear to be in any other way out of order.

With respect to the rejection of claims 41, 42, 44, 47, 54, 56 to 59, and 66 to 68 under §102(b) as being anticipated by Darsow et al., this reference is directed to a branched, high molecular-weight polyaryl-ether sulfone which is the reaction product of approximately equimolar amounts of an aromatic dialkali metal bishydroxylate and a bis-(halogen-aryl) compound whose aryl nuclei are linked by sulfonyl groups and about 0.01 to about 2 mole percent, based on the bishydroxylate or bis-(4-halogenaryl) compound, of an aromatic compound having at least three aromatically linked alkali metal hydroxylate substituents and/or of a halogenaryl compound having at

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least three aryl-linked halogen substituents and which is capable of substitution under the reaction conditions of polyaryl-ether sulfone manufacture. In contrast, the present claims as amended do not entail the reaction of bis-(halogen-aryl) sulfone compounds.

Applicant believes that the foregoing amendments and distinctions place the claims in condition for allowance, and accordingly respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds for rejection.

Applicants respectfully request further consideration of the nonelected claims upon allowance of a generic claim.

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In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, she is hereby authorized to call Applicant(s) attorney, Judith L. Byorick, at Telephone Number (585) 423-4564, Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



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